

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 226538

17

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

FBIE-00 JUSE-00 MCT-01 SY-05 SCA-01 CPR-01 SAM-01

SAJ-01 IO-13 SCS-03 PER-01 DHA-02 EB-07 AGR-05 AGRE-00

/100 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JMSEYMOUR/DJW

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

EUR/EE:NGANDREWS

----- 098553

R 140106Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226538

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YO, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS

1. SUMMARY: WHILE EVENTS MOVING QUICKLY IN SOME OF THESE AREAS AND HAVE AT LEAST PARTIALLY OVERTAKEN SOME ASPECTS OF ANDREWS-STRBAC CONVERSATION WE THOUGHT YOU SHOULD HAVE FOLLOWING FULL REPORT. END SUMMARY.

2. YUGOSLAV EMBASSY BOMBING. ANDREWS EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE FBI AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING INVESTIGATION OF THE BOMBING OF THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY LAST JUNE. THESE AGENCIES TELL US THEY HAVE NO NEW INFORMATION BUT ARE WORKING INTENSIVELY, AND WE ARE CONVINCED THEY ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO PURSUE THE INVESTIGATION ACTIVELY. WE MUST WAIT FOR A BREAKTHROUGH, WHICH WE ALL  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 226538

HOPE WILL COME SOON.

3. CROATIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS MEETING. ANDREWS ASKED ABOUT THE CROATIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS MEETING WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 5 AND 6 IN NEW YORK. STRBAC SAID IT HAD BEEN POSTPONED, APPARENTLY DUE TO INTERNAL QUARRELS AND UNCERTAINTY ABOUT ATTENDANCE OF LEADERS LIVING ABROAD. ANDREWS TOLD STRBAC WHAT WE HAD DONE TO

ALERT OUR DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS, AND STRBAC EXPRESSED APPRECIATION.

4. SECURITY AND PROTECTION OF AMBASSADOR AND U.S. PERSONNEL. ANDREWS SAID WE ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SECURITY AND PROTECTION OF OUR AMBASSADOR AND U.S. PERSONNEL IN BELGRADE. HE REFERRED TO THE HARASSMENT OF OUR AMBASSADOR BY VUCETA MANDIC WHO HAD ALSO THREATENED A CONSULAR OFFICER. AFTER HAVING INFORMED GOY AUTHORITIES ABOUT HIM AND RECEIVING ASSURANCES THAT THEY WOULD PURSUE THE MATTER, MANDIC APPEARED SUDDENLY IN TITOGRAĐ WHEN THE AMBASSADOR WAS THERE. ANDREWS SAID WE WERE GENUINELY WORRIED ABOUT MANDIC'S THREATS AND BEHAVIOR AND YUGOSLAV INACTION. STRBAC RESPONDED THAT THE YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES HAVE "TALKED TO" MANDIC. THEY BELIEVE HIM TO BE A "NERVOUS" MAN BUT DO NOT REGARD HIM AS A SERIOUS THREAT. HE CONCLUDED THAT IF YUGOSLAV SECURITY PERSONNEL HAVE ASSURED OUR EMBASSY, THEY DO SO WITH GOOD REASON.

5. ANDREWS SAID OUR CONCERN IS HEIGHTENED BY A RECENT REPORT THAT LAST WEEKEND IN AUSTRIA UNKNOWN PERSONS WERE OVERHEARD DISCUSSING A PLAN TO KILL OUR AMBASSADOR. FURTHERMORE, ANOTHER REPORT, WHICH WE ARE UNABLE AT PRESENT TO CONFIRM, MENTIONS THAT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS, INCLUDING THE ONE KNOWN AS CARLOS, WHO ARE WANTED IN OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE RECENTLY ARRIVED IN YUGOSLAVIA, AND STRBAC WAS REMINDED OF OUR SPECIAL EFFORTS AGAINST TERRORISM. STRBAC EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE MENTION OF CARLOS AND SAID HE WOULD CONVEY THIS INFORMATION BACK TO THE MINISTRY. (SEE ALSO SEPTTEL FOR EXCHANGE ON SUBJECT OF CARLOS BETWEEN THE COUNSELOR AND YUGOSLAV CHARGE PETKOVIC.)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 226538

6. HARASSMENT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. ANDREWS OBSERVED THAT THIS YEAR MORE AMERICAN CITIZENS OF YUGOSLAV EXTRACTION SEEM TO BE ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTIES WITH YUGOSLAV POLICE THAN EVER BEFORE. THEY ARE BEING INTERROGATED ABOUT POSSIBLE EMIGRE CONTACTS AND ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES. ANDREWS SAID HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT THIS REFLECTS ABOUT THE SITUATION IN YUGOSLAVIA BUT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT REACTIONS IN THE U.S., ESPECIALLY YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

AS EXAMPLES, ANDREWS OUTLINED SKUNCA AND TIEMANN CASES, POINTING OUT THAT THERE IS A SERIOUS QUESTION OF ADVISING SUCH PEOPLE TO RENOUNCE THEIR YUGOSLAV CITIZENSHIP BEFORE VISITING YUGOSLAVIA. MOREOVER, ANDREWS STRESSED THE EMBASSY'S CONCERN THAT, AS THE TOTH CASE DEMONSTRATED, IT COULD NOT BE ASSURED OF CONSULAR ACCESS TO THESE PEOPLE. WE WANT TO AVOID A REPETITION OF THIS PROBLEM.

7. STRBAC RESPONDED THAT SOME EMIGRE GROUPS, SUCH AS THE SAN PEDRO BRANCH OF THE CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION, HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE USTASHI, SO IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT GOY AUTHORITIES TAKE PRECAUTIONS. HE SAID THAT THE POLICE INTERROGATE INDIVIDUALS IN YUGOSLAVIA AS EVERYWHERE ELSE BUT EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE CASES ANDREWS HAD CITED WERE EXCEPTIONAL AND WOULD NOT DETER TOURISM. HE PROMISED TO CONVEY ANDREWS' REMARKS TO BELGRADE.

8. ANDREWS OBSERVED THAT THERE IS AN APPARENT CONTRADICTION IN YUGOSLAVIA'S DESIRE TO ENCOURAGE TOURISM AND NATIONAL GROUPS WHICH FOSTER TIES BETWEEN THE OLD HOMELAND AND THEIR NEW COUNTRIES AND ITS SUSPICION OF THESE GROUPS.

9. GRACANIN CASE. ANDREWS REVIEWED THE CASE OF OUR FSL WHO HAD EMBEZZLED OVER \$30,000 FROM USIA FUNDS. HE POINTED OUT THAT, ALTHOUGH THE MAN HAD BEEN TURNED OVER TO YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES FOR PROSECUTION, WE LEARNED IN THE SPRING THAT HE APPEARED IN WEST GERMANY TO APPLY FOR A VISA TO AUSTRALIA. BOTH HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS AND ANY LEGAL ACTION AGAINST HIM ARE UNKNOWN TO US. WE DO NOT LIKE IT WHEN SOMEONE EMBEZZLES SUCH A SUM OF MONEY AND GETS AWAY WITH IT. WE EXPECTED HIM TO BE JAILED AND WE ARE DISAPPOINTED, AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN EXPLANATION. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 226538

10. DENEVNIK STORIES ON TOTH. ANDREWS NOTED THAT THE VOJVODINA NEWSPAPER DNEVNIK HAD CARRIED A FOUR-PART SERIES ON "THE TWO FACES OF LASZLO THOTH," MAKING THE POINT THAT HE HAD BEEN GUILTY ONLY OF ECONOMIC ESPIONAGE. IT MADE NO SUGGESTION OF ANY OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITY, SUCH AS MILITARY OR POLITICAL ESPIONAGE OR WORKING FOR ANY INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, OR ASSOCIATION WITH ANTI-YUGOSLAV EMIGRE ORGANIZATIONS. ALTHOUGH THERE HAD BEEN MANY SUGGESTIONS EARLIER THAT SOMETHING MORE THAN MERE PICTURE-TAKING WAS INVOLVED, NO SUBSTANTIATING EVIDENCE HAS EVER BEEN PROVIDED. CONSEQUENTLY, WE ASK THAT OFFICERS IN GOY MISSION AND CONSULATES HERE CEASE GIVING THE IMPRESSION, AS THEY HAVE IN SOME PLACES, THAT TOTH DID SOMETHING MORE THAN TAKE PICTURES OF A SUGAR REFINERY.

11. STRBAC DENIED THAT ANYONE IS DOING THIS, BUT HE  
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS HAVE INSTRUCTIONS  
TO DISPEL THE IMPRESSION ALLEGEDLY CONVEYED BY AMERICAN  
PRESS STORIES THAT TOOTH WAS A MERE TOURIST. INSISTING THAT  
IT WAS A CLEAR CASE OF ECONOMIC ESPIONAGE, STRBAC MAINTAINED  
THAT THE VRBAS SUGAR PLANT -- JUST AS FORD MOTOR COMPANY --  
HAS A RIGHT TO PROTECT ITSELF FROM SUCH ACTIVITY. REJOINING,

ANDREWS STRESSED THAT YUGOSLAVS HAVE NOW ADMITTED IN THEIR  
NEWSPAPERS THAT PICTURES OF SUGAR MAKING MACHINERY ALL THAT  
WAS INVOLVED AND WONDERED IF YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES HAD CON-  
SIDERED COST OF THEIR ACTION ON STATE OF RELATIONS -  
OFFICIAL AND ECONOMIC. ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE226538  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JMSEYMOUR/DJW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760345-1338  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760962/aaaacatt.tel  
**Line Count:** 183  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** U.S.-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, YO, US  
**To:** BELGRADE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006